

lie two remained close friends, and when Jefferson was 'resident he took special pains to provide Page with a profitable necnre.

When he took his seat as Governor on June 1st, 1779, Virginia vis in a sad plight. The French alliance, which had just been Diichulecl, had aroused England to a. bitter and cruel policy, net had not as yet aroused a corresponding zeal in America. f America was to become an accession to France, it was the itcrct of England, her commissioners declared, to render iat accession of as little avail as possible. Pillage and the ,>reh and extermination were now to be the means of subjuga-on. The brunt of the new warfare, was to be borne by the lOiiLh. The fairest scene for the ravaging of the invader was Irginia. On the west—and her western frontier extended to lie Mississippi—the Indians incited by English agents were iireatening to cross the Alleghanies and destroy the civilization 'f the border counties. ()n, the east, broad, deep streams in-ited British men-of-war to ascend and efface the important 'laces of the State, for there were no boats and no forts to prc-ent them. On the south the armies of Cormvallis were harry-* ig the Carolinas and pressing hard upon the border. At the sfrnth was Washington, calling for assistance.

The State was helpless to resist an invasion. Tier four armed 'essels, which mounted in all but sixty-two guns., were so poorly naimed that they were practically useless. Her militia, con-idering the vast area to be defended, was very small; worse till, it was inexperienced; and worst of all, it was wretchedly upplied with the munitions of war. HHiere was but one good [•un for four or five men. There were no saddles, blankets, ents, and there was no money with which to buy these things. Hie normal military resources of the Stale had been exhausted 11 responding to the call of Washington and Congress.

To defend the. State successfully in such circumstances re< luired a great administrator and a great warrior, and Jefferson/ vas neither. lie was- the author of some: pleasing speculations n political science, he was a, hold reformer of the jurisprudence)f his State, but he had never been tested for practical states-